ACHS SUMMARY FORM

MAGI #1650170303. (#assigned 17/86) ..

Name	Beal	1-Dawson	House
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2. Planning Area/Site Number 26/10 3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference Map 15

4. Address 103 West Montgomery Avenue Rockville

5. Classification Summary

Category buildings Ownership public Public Acquisition --Status occupied Accessible yes; restricted Present use museum; private residence

Previous Survey Recording M-NCPPC Federal x State x County Local x National Register, 1973; Maryland Register, 1972; City of Rockville, 1974

6. Date 1815

7. Original Owner Upton Beall

8. Apparent Condition

site	
L	site

b. unaltered

Description The Beall-Dawson house is a large three-block telescope Federal house, well constructed and typical of Montgomery County brick houses of this period. The main block is 3 bays wide and 3 deep, $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories high, with a moderately pitched A roof. The front is laid in smooth Flemish bond, and the other sides are of rougher brick laid in common bond. The windows are unusually large and wide for a house of this period, and have arches; a chimney is enclosed in each end wall. The interior has an east entrance hall divided by a large arch and interrupted by a staircase. The 22 story middle section is brick, 4 bays long on the rear facade. A large brick arch is an outstanding feature. This section repeats the architectural features of the main block, though smaller in scale. The third section of the "telescope" is a 20th century frame 1-story wing. Outbuildings include a small brick dairy house, a 19th century frame doctor's office moved to the site, and a c. 1950s garage.

10. Significance The house is an important reminder of the early history of Rockville. It is of grander scale and material than most extant early buildings, and is important for its historical associations as well. It was constructed in 1815 for Upton Beall, second Clerk of the Montgomery County Court; Beall was a member of the Scottish family who became prominent throughout western Maryland. The Marquis de Lafayette reportedly visited here during his 1824 tour of the U.S. Descendants of Beall (later the related Dawson family) lived here until the middle of the 20th century. It is now owned by the City of Rockville, and serves as headquarters of the Montgomery County Historical Society. The house is furnished as a house museum, the doctor's office as an 1890 country doctor would have used it, and the garage is used as the Society's _library.

1. Date researched and researcher

Staff, Maryland Historical Trust 1972 12. Compiler 13. Date Comp

Eileen McGuckian

13. Date Compiled Dec. 1978

15. Acreage one acre

14. Designation Approval____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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The Beall-Dawson House, Rockville, is located on the north side of Montgomery Street at the junction of Montgomery Street and West Middle Lane.

This is a large Federal house, well constructed and typical of Montgomery County brick houses of the early nineteenth century. The house is composed of three block telescope plan.

The main block of the house is three bays wide and three bays deep. It is two-and-a-half stories in height with a moderately pitched "A" roof. The front (south) of the house is laid in Flemish bond with a very smooth brick mortared with good grapevine joints. The sides, rear (north) and wing are of rougher brick laid in common bond.

All the windows have flat brick arches on the main house; the first story windows have twelve-over-twelve sashes while those on the second floor are twelve over eight. The windows are unusually large and wide for a house of this period.

The narrow six-panel front door has a rectangular, threepane transom.

A chimney is enclosed in each end wall of the house. gable end walls rise higher than the roof making a roof curtain with squared brick corbels at the south and north.

A three-string brick cornice with the middle row of bricks laid in a diagonal decorates the roofline.

A large stair hall window between the floors is on the north facade of the house.

The interior of the main block has an entrance hall along the east wall. A large arch with radial pilasters of rope molding and small acanthus leaf molding divides the hall. Rising from the north end is a delicate staircase.

Fan and medallion-style carving define the chair rail throughout the main section; the plaster acanthus leaf cornice of the hall is repeated only in the parlor. An Adam mantel has fluted Ionic colonettes, swags, pineapples, medallions, dolphins and acanthus leaves. Marble surrounds the fireplace.

The doors have six panels and applied molding. window and door jambs and the area beneath the recessed windows are paneled.

The two-and-one-half story middle section is brick, four SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SCREEK & BARK & A

Farm 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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Beall-Dawson House

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

bays long on the south facade. There are two windows on the north. A large brick arch filled with frame work and a door after its construction is located in the two bays nearest the main section. The middle section repeats the architectural features of the main block although it is smaller in scale being only one room deep.

The third section of the "telescope" is a twentieth-century frame, one-story wing in keeping with the style of the rest of the building.

The two wings are used as a residence for the curator.

North of the Beall-Dawson House stands a small, brick outbuilding which was probably a smoke house.

The Montgomery County Historical Society plans (1972) to use the garage as a museum.

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The Beall-Dawson House is the extant architectural reminder of the heritage of the early history of Rockville as a town. The village has experienced extensive growth, urbanization and density since World War II which resulted in a disregard for the early history of Rockville as an architectural community. The house is one of only a few structures still standing significant to the heritage of the area.

The house serves the community as the headquarters of the Montgomery County Historical Society which maintains a library and exhibit in the building. The Society opens the Beall-Dawson House in the afternoons from Tuesday through Saturday.

In 1815 Upton Beall, one of the first Clerks of the Montgomery County Court, built the Beall-Dawson House. Beall and his father were among the most prominent citizens in the first year of the county's history. He was a member of the Scottish family that came to Maryland in the seventeenth century and settled throughout western Maryland. Two twentieth-century United States Senators from Maryland have borne the name Beall.

According to tradition, the Marquis de Lafayette visited the Beall-Dawson House during his 1824 tour of the United States.

The house remained in the hands of the descendants of Upton Beall until the twentieth century. In 1965 the City of Rockville with the Montgomery County Historical Society purchased the house to be used as the Society's headquarters. The latter organization gave the legal title in its entirety to the municipality. The city's support of the preservation of this house is noteworthy.

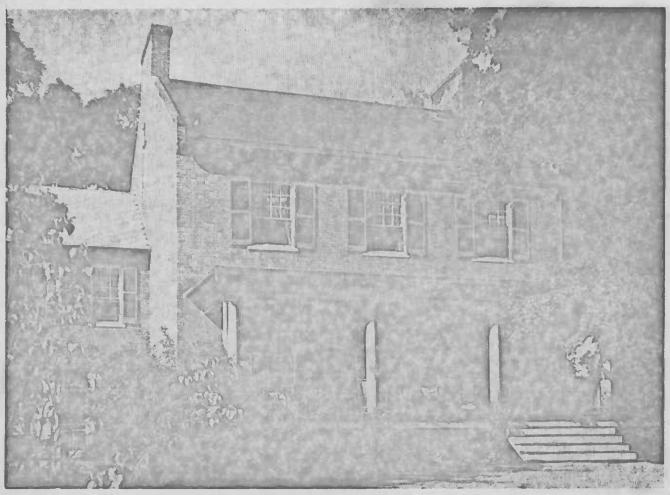
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Poole, Martha Sprigg. "The Beall-Dawson House in Rockville, Maryland." The Montgomery County Story. Vol. IX. (February 1966), 1-8.

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Dawson House



NO. 20 F-7 UPTON BEALL 1815 BRICK

IT IS a pleasure as well as a distinct duty to include this superb brick house in this book on old homes. It needs little description from the author as it has been a familiar landmark in the county seat for one hundred and fifty years.

Due to the prominence of the Beall family, and the architectural beauty of the house—formerly known as the Upton Beall house—references are made to it in Scharf's History of Western Maryland, in Portrait and Biographical Record, of Sixth Congressional District, by Chapman Publishing Company and in Miss Noma Thompson's excellent History of Rockville. Because of the most competent and devoted work now being done in its restoration to

its former beauty and charm by the present owners, it is attracting renewed attention from county lovers of our cherished landmarks.

The house invariably attracts the attention of visitors to Rockville because of its striking setting. It fronts on West Montgomery Avenue, from which it is screened by two huge groups of box bushes, believed to have been planted before the house was built. It has a frontage on North Adams Street, forming the corner with West Montgomery Avenue, and also a frontage on North Van Buren Street. It is in Block 13 of Bealt's Subdivision of Rockville. It also has a frontage on West Middle Laue. The lot in 1960 contains approximately one and one-half acres of land.

Upton Beall was born in 1770 at Beallmont, the beautiful home of his father Brooke Beall situated high above the Potomac River near Travilah. At that time the place contained 1,500 acres and later was increased to 2,500. Brooke Beall married Margaret Johns, and one of their sons was Upton, who inherited the plantation. Upton was a polished gentleman, hospitable, courteous and benevolent. He managed his estate and farm efficiently. Brooke had been the first Clerk of the Circuit Court in 1777 after Montgomery County was separated from Frederick County, and his son Upton succeeded him in that office in 1795. Because he had become an active attorney-at-law, and because of his wealth and prominence, Upton decided that residence would be desirable in the young town, then known as Williamsburg, later as Montgomery Court House, and about 1803 as Rockville.

In 1812 he began erection of his mansion, living for the while at Hungerford's celebrated tavern, but the War of 1812 upset his plans. It is reported that troops burned the lumber he was collecting, although Beallmont had been thrown open to entertain them and had become the headquarters for the American forces. The house in Rockville was completed in 1815, and Upton lived there until his death in 1827 at the age of 57. Upton was married twice, first in 1796 to Matilda B. Price. Their only child died in infancy. Second, he married in December, 1810, Jane Neil Robb. Of the three daughters of this union, who lived to maturity, Margaret J. Beall inherited the Beallmont place and also the lovely home in Rockville where she was born in 1817. Jane Neil Robb Beall died in 1849, and she and Upton lie buried side by side in Rockville Union Cemetery.

Miss Margaret Beall willed the house to her three nieces who in later years lived with her. One was Mrs. John Dawson who was a daughter of Aquilla Beall, a brother of Upton. In this way the place came to members of the Dawson family, hence it has been known in recent times as the Dawson house. The property had remained in possession of various members of the family, descendants of the Bealls, until 1946 when it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Edwin L. Davis. Mr. Davis died in November 1956, and his widow continues to live in the home in 1961. Of the twenty-five signatures on the deed to the Davis's, which was recorded June 25, 1946, eleven were named Dawson.

To do justice to the details of the construction of this house, which details are so eharming and which are being restored with almost sacred reverence by Mrs. Davis, is not within the space available to the author. Those desiring more details are referred to articles in the Montgomery County Sentinel May, 1951, and to the owner who appears pleased to show the house and their work to those interested.

The front and Adams Street sides of the house are of face brick laid in Flemish bond, the rear and all sides of the wing are Federal bond. Some 9" x 11", and some 10" x 12" panes are in sash with 24 lights on the first floor and 20 lights on the second. There are two carved mantels in the parlor and dining room. The large reception hall on the Adams Street end has a large carved arch, and carved chair rails are in it and in the parlor in the front of the house. A dining room has been made of the large old kitchen, four steps lower than the main floor. The original dining room, off the rear of the hall, is now the living room. The first floor ceilings are eleven feet high with cornices in parlor and entrance hall. All window jambs are panelled, and there are large brass locks with brass knobs. The floors are of longleaf North Carolina pine with walnut door sills.

Now, a modern dining room, which has been panelled to the eeiling on all sides, is to be found in the wing where there was an old kitchen and a breezeway. On the second floor of the main house there are two large bedrooms, and in the wing are three original bedrooms, with fireplaces in two of them, which were slave quarters and nursery. On the third floor there are three rooms.

Montgomery County Public Schools

Social Studies Field Trips

Beall-Dawson House



Click on the picture for a larger image.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PUBLIC

NAME: Beall-Dawson House

STREET: 103 W. Montgomery Ave.

CITY: Rockville

STATE: MD

ZIP: 20850

COUNTY: Montgomery

PHONE: 301-762-1492 or 301-340-2825

FEES: Adults, \$3.00. Children, \$2.00.

HOURS AND DAYS: Tues - Sat, 12 - 4 pm. First Sat. of month, 2 - 5 pm.

METRO ACCESS: Red line, Rockville Station

TEACHER INFORMATION FOR FIELD TRIPS

GRADES: 4

UNITS: MD History

CONTACT: Emily Correll

PHONE: 301-760-5115

TYPE: Historic house

FEES: House \$2 per student. Adults free.

DAYS: House: W Th F

HOURS: 9 am - 12 noon

LUNCH: None, picnic on grounds (no tables)

GROUP SIZE: 40 - 70, minimum 4 adults per tour.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS: No

LENGTH OF TOUR: 1 hour 45 minutes

UNITS: My Community

PHONE: 301-760-5115

HOURS: 9 am - 12 noon

FEES: \$3 per student, adults free.

GRADES: 2

CONTACT: Emily Correll

TYPE: walk

DAYS: T W Th F during Sept, May, and June

LUNCH: None, picnic on grounds (no tables

GROUP SIZE: 25 (one class) HANDICAPPED ACCESS: No

LENGTH OF TOUR: 30 minutes house tour, 30 minutes walk

DESCRIPTION AND RESOURCES

DESCRIPTION: The theme of the tour of this 1815 house is the change in lifestyle from 1815 to the present. Topics cover the War of 1812, architecture, the early history of Montgomery County, tobacco, farming, family life, and medicine. Students can participate in a hands-on costume exploration from 1776 to 1920. Slave life is also discussed. An adjacent medical museum has an excellent display of early medical equipment. Students may use the library facilities. Tours are conducted by the Montgomery County Historical Society.

The walking tour of historic Rockville includes hands-on activities and a sampler craft which the students start on the tour and then take home with them.

RESOURCES

• Brochure, previsit packet and video.

• The Montgomery County Story is published quarterly by the Montgomery County Historical Society. It provides monographs focusing on history of the people, places, events and organizations in Montgomery County, Maryland.

• MCPS Activity Plan For This Field Trip Site

Additional information about the Montgomery Historical Society publications.

Field Trip Planning Tools

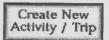
- MCPS Field Trip Checklist
- Items to Bring on the Trip
- Field Trip Tips
- Tips for Primary Grades

• Internet Sites

- Tour the Beall-Dawson House
- The Montgomery County Historical Society



Images courtesy of the Montgomery County Historical Society









Last updated on Nov. 7, 1999 Maintained by Martin M. Creel: Marty_Creel@fc.mcps.k12.md.us

M:26-10-1



MCHS

MONTGOMERY
COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

EXTERIOR VIEW



Your Tour starts here, at the corner of North Adams and West Montgomery Avenues in Rockville..

To continue with the Front Hall Interior Click Here

The Beall-Dawson House was built in 1815 for Upton Beall, Clerk of the Court for Montgomery County and a man of means in county society. The house was built overlooking one of the main roads into town and would certainly have been an impressive sight at the time. Rockville, while a crossroads, was still a rural town with only 200 residents and 35 houses. The Beall-Dawson House, larger and more impressive than other houses in town, was also built of brick, a rarity indeed! The house was built in the Federal style which was popular in Georgetown where Upton Beall was raised. Jane Robb Beall, Mr. Beall's wife, was daughter of one of Rockville's tavern owners. They had three daughters, Jane, Mathilda and Margaret.

See the <u>Parlour</u>, <u>Dining Room</u>, <u>Bed Room</u>, and <u>Slave</u> Quarters.

Return to Home Page

M: 26-10-1

Beall Dawson House

103 West Montgomery Avenue Rockville, MD 20850

Museum: 301-762-1492 Office: 301-340-2825



School Tours & Outreach

History Camp

Exhibits & Events

Scout Programs General Admission & Tours: The Beall-Dawson House is open for public tours Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 4:00 p.m. Admission: \$3 for adults; \$2 for seniors and children. Group Tours: Make reservations by calling 301-340-2825.

Closed major holidays.

Beall-Dawson House Virtual Tour

The Beall-Dawson House

At the historic Beall-Dawson House our guests will learn about the county's beginnings in this elegant federal style town-home featuring period rooms and changing exhibits. The museum tour highlights the daily life and culture of the Bealls, an upper-class Montgomery County family and the African American slaves who labored there.

Stonestreet Museum V irtual Tour

The Stonestreet Museum of 19th Century Medicine

The Stonestreet Museum of 19th Century Medicine offers an insiders look into the changes in medical science through the career of Dr. Edward E. Stonestreet. Built in 1852, this unique one-room Gothic Revival doctor's office features medical artifacts and implements demonstrating the fascinating changes in medical practices from bloodletting to x-rays.

Directions from Route 355: Turn onto East Middle Lane, cross North Washington and go 1 1/2 blocks. Just past North Adams Street you'll see our parking lot on the left. Directions from Route 270: Take the Route 28 exit east towards downtown Rockville, turn left at the light at Great Falls Road to stay on West Montgomery. Turn left onto North Adams Street and make the next left onto Middle Lane. Continue up

Back to Map

Park Rules

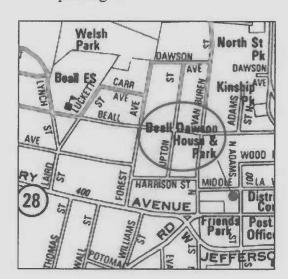
Anderson Park Beall-Dawson House/Park Beall Elementary School Broome MS/Athletic Park **Bullards Park** Calvin Park Children's Resource Center Climbing Gym City Hall Campus Civic Center Park College Gardens E.S. College Gardens Park Courthouse Square Park Croydon Creek Nature Center David Scull Comm Ctr & Park Dawson Farm Park Dogwood Park Elwood Smith Comm Ctr & F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre Fallsmead E.S. First Street Park Friends Park Glenora Park Glenview Mansion Grandin Ave. Park Hillcrest Park Horizon Hill Park Isreal Park (Clarence Pint) Jacqulin Trells Williams Park James Monroe Park Julius West Middle School King Farm Park Kinship Park Lakewood Elementary School Lincoln Park Comm. Center Lincoln Terrace Park Lone Oak Park Mannakee Circle Mark Twain Athletic Park Maryvale Elementary School Maryvale Park Meadow Hall E.S Memory Walk Park Montrose Comm. Ctr. & Park Montrose Woods Park Monument Park North Farm Park North Street Park Northeast Park Orchard Ridge Park Potomac Woods Park Pump House RedGate Mun. Golf Course Richard Montgomery H.S. Ritchie Park E.S. Robert Frost Middle School Rockcrest Ballet Ctr. & Park Rockmead Park Rock Terrace School Rockville High School Senior Center Social Hall Silver Rock Park Skate Park at Welsh Park Swim Center Thomas S. Wootton H.S. Tweed Park Twinbrook E.S. Twinbrook Rec. Ctr & Park Upper Watts Branch Park Veterans Park

Beall Dawson House/Park



103 West Montgomery Avenue

- 2.90 acres
- historic buildings
- park benches
- landscaping
- parking lot



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M: 26-10-1

Click here for a plain text ADA compliant screen.



Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation MONTGOMERY COUNTY Real Property Data Search

Go Back View Map New Search

Account Identifier:

District - 04 Account Number - 00151928

Owner Information

Owner Name:

MAYOR & COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE

EXEMPT COMMERCIAL

Mailing Address:

MARYLAND AVE AT VINSON **ROCKVILLE MD 20850**

Principal Residence:

Deed Reference:

1) / 3402/ 366

2)

Location & Structure Information

Premises Address 103 W MONTGOMERY AVE

Zoning R90

Legal Description PTS LTS 57-58-59&ADJ

PAR ROCKVILLE

Map Grid **Parcel** GR32

Sub District Subdivision 201

Block Lot Group Plat No: 13 82 Plat Ref:

Special Tax Areas

ROCKVILLE 20850

Town Ad Valorem

ROCKVILLE

Tax Class **Primary Structure Built** 1812

Property Land Area

Section

County Use

Stories

5,068 SF **Basement**

Enclosed Area

63,423.00 SF Type

111 **Exterior**

2 1/2

N266

STANDARD UNIT

1/2 BRICK FRAME

Value Information

Base Value Value As Of

0

Phase-in Assessments As Of 07/01/2003

As Of 07/01/2004

Land: Improvements: Total:

Preferential Land:

01/01/2003 99,200 99,200 303,300 303,300 402,500 402,500

0

YES

402,500

402,500

Transfer Information

Seller: IMPROVED ARMS-LENGTH Type:

Date: 09/08/1965 Deed1: / 3402/ 366 Price:

Seller:

Type:

Date:

Deed2: Price:

Type: Seller:

Deed1 Date: Deed1:

Deed2: Price: Deed2:

Exemption Information

0

Partial Exempt Assessments County State

07/01/2003 0 0

07/01/2004 Ω

0

0

Tax Exempt: **Exempt Class:**

Municipal

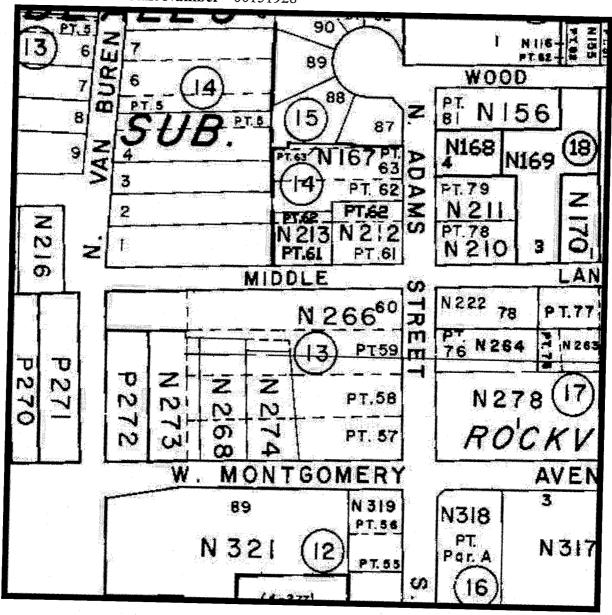
COUNTY AND STATE **MUSEUMS**

Special Tax Recapture:

* NONE *

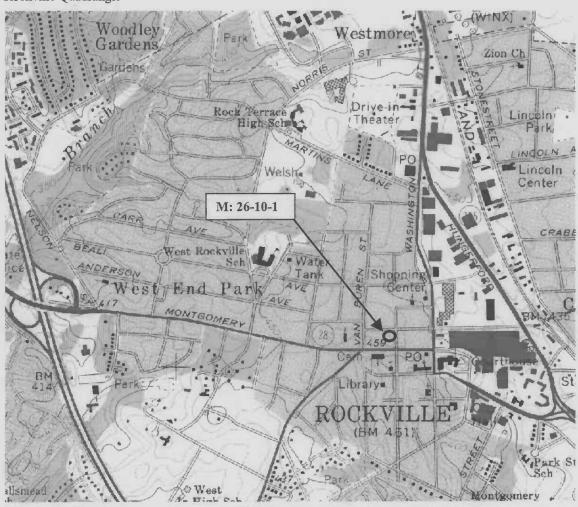
<u>Go Back</u> View Map New Search

District - 04Account Number - 00151928



Property maps provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of Planning ©2001. For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning web site at www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html

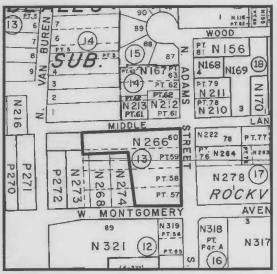
M: 26-10-1 Beall-Dawson House 103 West Montgomery Avenue (MD 28) Rockville Quadrangle



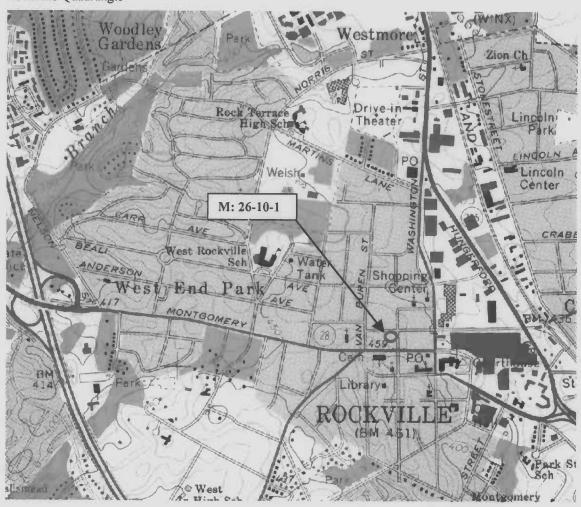
1993-94 Aerial Photo



Tax Map GR32



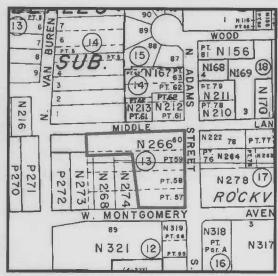
M: 26-10-1 Beall-Dawson House 103 West Montgomery Avenue (MD 28) Rockville Quadrangle



1993-94 Aerial Photo



Tax Map GR32





BEALL-DAWSON HOUSE M: 26-10-1 19 BA 103 West Montgomery Street ROCKVILLE Md. Historical Trust 94 College Ave. Annapolls, Md. 21401 Michael Bourne 1968